From: Charlie Zender
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 12/12/01 6:05pm

Subject: Reject Microsoft's proposed settlement

Dear Sirs.

Microsoft's proposed settlement is, in my opinion, a cynical sop to public opinion, and a dangerously flawed one at that.

Microsoft proposes to "donate" their software to the one marketplace segment that they do not already completely dominate, US schools. That in itself is reason enough to reject the settlement.

There also does not seem to be any type of punitive action against Microsoft for violating the previous (1995?) consent decree. This company uses its OS monopoly to break into new markets and destroy competitors so often and predictably that one wonders when they will get more than a slap on the wrist.

Forbidding MS from charging more for windows to manufacturers who want to ship their machines with multi-boot OSs, forbidding MS from requiring that MSIE be used to access crucial websites (using "embrace and extend" tactics on HTML), these are the areas that really make a difference and need to be addressed.

Respectfully, Charlie Zender Professor of Earth System Science

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